Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A breast shield set for pumping off human breast milk, the breast shield set comprising a breast shield, a breast shield connector with a threaded attachment for connection to a milk collection vessel, and a valve for limiting a dead volume during pumping off of breast milk, wherein the valve has a valve seat and a valve body with a circular diaphragm, the valve body being arranged over the valve seat and closing the latter sealingly when it bears on said valve seat, and the valve seat and valve body having openings which are offset relative to one another and which form a free passage when the diaphragm of the valve body lifts, wherein the diaphragm of the valve body has elongate openings which are uniformly distributed along a circle in the periphery of the diaphragm, and wherein the elongate openings are separated from one another by webs, the diaphragm being designed to be weaker in the area adjacent to these webs ~~is a valve as claimed in claim 1~~.

19. (Previously presented) The breast shield set as claimed in claim 18, in which the valve seat of the valve can be fitted onto the breast shield connector or is formed integrally on the latter.

20. (Previously presented) The breast shield set as claimed in claim 18, in which the breast shield connector, the breast shield and the valve seat are made from an autoclavable material and the valve body is made from a non-autoclavable material.

21. (Original) The breast shield set as claimed in claim 20, in which the autoclavable material is polypropylene (PP) and the non-autoclavable material is a thermoplastic elastomer (TPE).

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22. (Previously presented) A breast shield set for pumping off human breast milk, the breast shield set comprising a breast shield, a breast shield connector with a threaded attachment for connection to a milk collection vessel, and a valve for limiting a dead volume during pumping off of the breast milk, in which the valve has a valve seat and a valve body closing the latter, wherein at least one part of the breast shield set is made from a non-autoclavable material.

23. (Previously presented) The breast shield set as claimed in claim 22, in which the valve body itself is made from the non-autoclavable material.

24. (Previously presented) The breast shield set as claimed in claim 22, in which the breast shield and the breast shield connector are together formed in one piece.

25. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which the circle has a center point that coincides with the center point of the circular diaphragm.

26. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which the elongate openings form a common circular ring whose width is a multiple smaller than the smaller radius of the circular ring and which is provided with webs.

27. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which exactly three elongate openings and exactly three webs are present.

28. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which compact openings are present adjacent to the webs.

29. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 28, in which the compact openings have a T-shaped configuration.

30. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 28, in which the compact openings are arranged in the weakened area of the diaphragm.

31. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 29, wherein the T-shaped openings each have a foot and a bar extending transversely over the latter, and in which the foot is oriented toward the webs and radially toward a center point of the circle of the diaphragm.

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32. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which the valve body has a cylindrical jacket that surrounds the diaphragm.

33. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 32, wherein the diaphragm except for the elongate openings and compact openings and weakened areas, is designed as a plane, closed disk, which is connected circumferentially to the cylindrical jacket.

34. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 32, in which the jacket has at least one notch extending parallel to a center axis of the cylindrical jacket.

35. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 32, in which the cylindrical jacket has an inner face provided with at least one groove extending at least partially about the circumference.

36. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 32, in which the cylindrical jacket is provided with a bead extending at least partially about the circumference.

37. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which the valve seat has a plane surface with a central opening and with openings extending around this central opening, the peripheral openings being interrupted by webs.

38. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 18, in which at least one part of the valve is made from a non-autoclavable material.

39. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 38, in which the valve body is made from a non-autoclavable material.

40. (New) The breast shield as claimed in claim 39, valve body is made from a elastomer (TPE) in which the thermoplastic elastomer (TPE).

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